

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/632,087

Examiner

Cheryl Lewis

Applicant(s)

KIESSIG ET AL.

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the applicants' communication filed on November 13, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 7-29, renumbered as claims 1-28.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-5 and 7-29 are allowed. These claims have been renumbered as claims 1- 28. Claim 6 was cancelled in the amendment received on November 13, 2006.

Drawings

2. The drawings filed on August 14, 2006 are accepted by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kyle Turley on January 26, 2007.

4. Claims 1 and 17 have been amended as follows:
 1. (Currently amended) A computerized file management system for use with an existing file system, that includes a volume, and for managing electronic files on the volume, the file management system comprising:
a volume manager configured to manage the electronic files and to manage metadata relating to the electronic files, the volume manager being configured to

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associate information related to changes made by a user to a selected file of the electronic files with the selected file; and

a user interface that enables [a]the user to view and manage, within the file management system, metadata associated with the electronic files, the user interface configured to:

- i) graphically display information about the electronic files and the metadata, the information being indicative of a transactional history of [a]the selected file; and
- ii) enable the user to manipulate the files and the metadata.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said user interface includes a make current feature that makes a previous version of a file a current version.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Applicants' response filed on November 13, 2006 overcomes the prior art rejection under 35 USC § 103 by Sitka and Brechner.

The prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including 'a volume manager configured to manage the electronic files and to manage metadata relating to the electronic files, the volume manager being configured to associate information related to changes made by a user to a selected file of the

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electronic files with the selected file' and 'graphically display information about the electronic files and the metadata, the information being indicative of a transactional history of the selected file' as recited in independent claim 1.

The remaining claims, 2-5 and 7-29 are dependent claims, thus these claims are patently distinct over the art of record for at least the above reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONCLUSION

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

A. Kim et al. (Publication No. 2004/0107314 A1) discloses an apparatus and method for file-level striping; and

B. Delaire et al. (Publication No. 2003/0149695 A1) a storage area network methods and apparatus for automated file system extension.

NAME OF CONTACT

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the

Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cheryl" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Lewis".

Cheryl Lewis
Patent Examiner
January 30, 2007